

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 135921
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 /019 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EB/TEX:JJST. JOHN

APPROVED BY:EB/TEX:JJST. JOHN

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P 270318Z MAY 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 6627

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 135921

FOL NEW DELHI 8129 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BOMBAY CALCUTTA
GENEVA MAY 24, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 8129

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, IN, US

SUBJECT: BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 125857

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE JOINT
SECRETARY DAS RECENT PROBLEMS ARISING UNDER BILATERAL
TEXTILE AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO DAS, THERE WAS "NO CASE"
AT PRESENT FOR RESTRAINT OF SHIPMENTS OF INDIAN APPAREL
IN GROUP II OR THE FOUR JOINT MILLMADE AND HANDLOOM
APPAREL CATEGORIES (341; 338, 339 AND 340; 336; AND 347
AND 348). HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GOI HAD NOT PROPERLY
CERTIFIED HANDLOOM APPAREL EXPORTS, I.E. THEY HAD MIS-
TAKENLY NOT BEEN STAMPED WITH AN "ELEPHANT MARK". HE
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ESTIMATED THAT SINCE JANUARY 1, 1978, 55-60 PERCENT OF
THE TOTAL SHIPMENTS OF 21 MILLION SYE IN THE FOUR CATEGORIES
WERE ACTUALLY HAND LOOM GOODS (I. E. 11-12 MILLION SYE).
DAS ARGUED, THEREFORE, THAT THIS AMOUNT (11-12 MILLION
SYE) SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO GROUP II AND SHOULD BE
SUBTRACTED FROM IT. HE SAID THAT MINISTER DIXIT WILL
BE DISCUSSING THIS MATTER SOON WITH USG OFFICIALS.

2. DAAS THOUGHT THAT VERY FEW TEXTILE CATEGORIES WOULD BE FILLED IN CY 1978 BECAUSE THE BULK OF INDIAN APPAREL EXPORTS TO THE US OCCURRED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE CALENDAR YEAR. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOI MAY ASK AGAIN FOR A HIGHER CONSULTATION LEVEL FOR CATEGORY 342 (SKIRTS). HE SAID THAT IT WAS GENERAL GOI POLICY NOT TO ASK FOR INCREASES IN CONSULTATIONS LEVELS UNTIL A PARTICULAR CATEGORY WAS ABOUT 85 PERCENT FILLED AND IT WAS EVIDENT TO THE GOI THAT FUTURE SHIPMENTS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR WOULD EXCEED THE CONSULTATION LEVEL.

3. DAS REQUESTED LATEST AVAILABLE TEXTILE IMPORT DATA SO THAT THE GOI WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO ANTICIPATE FUTURE PROBLEMS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING BY CABLE THE MOST RECENT DATA ON US IMPORTS OF INDIAN TEXTILES BY CATEGORY DURING 1978. GOHEEN
UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE135921
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/TEX:JJST. JOHN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780224-0316
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780511/aaaaaipp.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6d6a3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 125857
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2536200
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BILATERAL TEXTILE AGREEMENT
TAGS: ETRD, IN, US
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6d6a3895-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014